

Infer President Spoke Of "Peace Of Loot" At Recent Conference

Understood That the Proceedings of the Session Will Not Be Made Public Until After Peace Is Declared—Compromise Plan on German Colonies.

Paris, Jan. 31.—(By the Associated Press).—The crisis in the Peace negotiations over the disposition to be made of Germany's colonies seems to have passed, momentarily at least. It is too early to say that President Wilson's view has prevailed in its entirety, but in American quarters there is confidence that a compromise plan, which has been accepted in principle, will be worked out with details which will be acceptable to the American viewpoint.

When the Supreme Council of the Peace Conference meets today it will have before it the very plain statement made by President Wilson at Wednesday's late session. So particular was Mr. Wilson to have an exact record of what he had said that soon after entering the meeting he summoned one of his personal stenographers and kept him at his side during the session.

What he said did not appear in the official communiqué, nor has it been disclosed with any official authority, but it may be stated that it was a very clear re-affirmation of the principles for which the President has previously contended. In phrases stripped of diplomatic niceties, it is understood, Mr. Wilson told the members of the Supreme Council he would not be party to a division of Germany's colonial possessions among the powers which now hold them, and then become party to a League of Nations, which, in effect, would guarantee their title. There are inferences that the President even referred to a "peace of loot."

The net result of the past two days of discussion on the colonial question, in the opinion of many Americans here, has been to clear the atmosphere generally and to force a clear definition of aims on all sides.

In the discussions concerning the disposal of the former German colonies, President Wilson contended in no uncertain terms that to divide the colonies among the entente nations would be in direct contravention of the "fourteen points" which have been accepted as a basis of peace. Such a division, he is said to have added, also would violate the principles of the League of Nations as laid down at the Peace Conference last Saturday.

The American attitude, it is declared, is very positive, and in case the Powers insist upon dividing the colonies among them, it is such that it would probably affect the whole future of the Peace Conference. President Wilson, it is understood, still holds to his original opinion that it would be scarcely worthwhile for the United States to participate in the negotiations unless a League of Nations, with the accompanying principles, were provided for in making peace.

The general public probably will not see a full report of Wednesday's session of the Supreme Council, which will probably have historic significance, until after the treaty of peace is signed, if at all.

The agreement reached by the Allied Council of Ten on the colonial question, according to a French agency statement today, provides that territories which the sufficiently civilized to give an expression of their wishes as to the form of their government will be permitted to set up such a government under the auspices of the League of Nations, obtaining either national independence or living under a protectorate of one or other of the great powers, Arabia and

AMERICA MUST NOT BE BEHOLDEN TO ANY OTHER COUNTRY FOR NAVAL PROTECTION, SAYS SEC. DANIELS

Annapolis, Jan. 31.—In presenting communications today to the last class of reserve officers trained at the United States naval academy during the war, Secretary Daniels predicted that "there will be no time of recession of interest in the navy."

"Not in your day," the secretary told the young officers, "will there be any reduction of naval powers. We are now on the last stretch of building the three-year program of naval construction which was authorized three years ago."

Secretary Daniels said he had no doubt that Congress would authorize the recommendation of President Wilson for another three-year program of construction. In building ships under that program, he said, "the types of vessels would be constructed which would keep our navy abreast of any navy in the world."

"We shall not build against any nation," the secretary continued, "because we have faith that the League of Peace will bring about such friendship and understanding among all nations as will ultimately cause a reduction in armament and a consequent decrease of expenditures for naval strength."

But so long as this republic needs a navy, we must have one, for our own protection and to preserve the peace of the world, which will be powerful, strong and modern.

"It would be a sin for America, rich and powerful to be beholden to any other country for naval protection. We must, in whatever sort of world police shall be needed in the new order, contribute as many units and as much strength as any other nation. We must remember always that the maintenance of the Monroe Doctrine is our peculiar responsibility and duty, and for its proper maintenance and our duty to secure to all the smaller nations of the world the rights to which they are entitled, we must maintain a navy strong enough and powerful enough to measure up to our responsibility and our obligations."

Mr. Daniels said the navy department intended, after the treaty of peace is signed, to maintain a trained and efficient naval reserve force which would be ready for instant mobilization.

Minneapolis flour output for the week Jan. 28 was 228,555 barrels.

METHOD OF CONVERTING INSURANCE

Soldiers and Sailors Holding Gov't Policies Can Change Over.

Washington, Jan. 31.—Conditions under which soldiers or sailors now may convert their policies within five years into other forms which can be carried with the government during their lifetime were announced today by Colonel Henry D. Lindsay, of the war risk insurance bureau. Rates will be made public soon, and the new policies will not be available until then.

There will be six different kinds of insurance—Ordinary life, 20-payment life, 20-payment life, 20-year endowment, 20-year endowment and endowment payable at the age of 62. All policies will contain clauses providing that in case of permanent total disability of the insured man, the government would pay the monthly payments to him and premium payments will cease. This amounts virtually to old-age pensioning and disability insurance, and insures that no man who has served in the army or navy need ever be destitute if he carries the government insurance.

All policyholders will participate in dividends and earnings of over 14 per cent. from the insurance fund will go into dividends. Since the reserves will be invested in government securities, most of which will pay in the neighborhood of 4 1/2 per cent, there will be large dividends to be returned periodically to policy holders.

Collections of premiums will be made through postmasters in each community. Although the rates have not yet been announced, Colonel Lindsay stated today they would be so low that officials of private insurance companies which assisted in drafting the rate schedule had admitted their companies could not compete with them.

Any man now in military or naval service holding government term life insurance can obtain the new forms, but the amount will be limited to his present holdings, which in no case are more than \$10,000. The government urges all men to continue to carry their present policies, but to convert these as soon as they are financially able within the next five years. The government itself and not private companies will carry these converted policies, it was emphasized.

The War Risk Insurance Bureau today reported that 4,500,000 policies already have been issued to soldiers and sailors for insurance aggregating \$22,322,000,000, or an average of \$5,750 on each man.

SHARPLY ATTACK COLONIES PLAN

Washington, Jan. 31.—Republicans of the Senate today sharply attacked the plan for dealing with German colonies and occupied territories of Turkey in Asia, which it was announced in Paris yesterday had been proposed by President Wilson and accepted in principle by the Supreme Council.

Senator Lodge, Republican leader, declared the proposed plan, which he said would commit the United States to co-operation in the main, in the occupied territories, was "absolutely unobjectionable," and Senator Knox of Pennsylvania asserted that the proposed obligations would involve the expenditure of preposterous amounts.

Senator Johnson of California denounced the method of making public the proceedings of the Peace Conference and declared he would never vote for a treaty that provided for the sending of American troops to Africa or Asia.

Sensors Walsh of Montana and Lewis of Illinois, Democrats, expressed doubt regarding accuracy of the statements in the despatches. The latter declared the reported plan would violate the fundamental principles of self-determination of peoples, as applied to the German colonies, and said he believed the real agreement was merely for their temporary administration by the League of Nations.

TRY TO SURROUND ALLIED COLUMN

(By The Associated Press).—The Bolsheviks are concentrating a considerable number of troops in the territory between the Volga railway and the line of the Vaga river, apparently with the object of either surrounding the Allied column in this sector or by cutting through to isolate the column to the eastward, on the Dvina. There are numerous winter roads through the swamps in this section and the Allied scouts report reinforcements arriving from the south over several of these roads.

An enemy force of approximately 1,000 men began an attack at 3:15 o'clock yesterday morning on the British and Russian position west of Tarevo, attacking with such violence that the defense was obliged to evacuate the village of Alexievskaya.

One of the Allied airplanes flew over Shenkurst yesterday. It reported that the town had not been burned, as refugees had stated.

The village of Shengovarsk, on the Vaga, which was evacuated several days ago, has been occupied by enemy infantry and cavalry, with five guns.

On the Dvina, near Tolgas, the Allied artillery yesterday dispersed an enemy patrol. In the Onega sector the Allied troops yesterday raided the village of Peretema, killing nine of the enemy and capturing nine, without losses to the Allied raiders.

Secretary Baker urged the government to abandon 14 of the 16 National Guard camps and purchase all of the sites of the National Army cantonments.

SITUATION IN BRITISH ISLES VERY SERIOUS

Spreading to Industrial Establishments—Signs of Coming Disorders.

MUST ESTABLISH UNION AUTHORITY

Several Injured in Glasgow When Police Charged Mob of Strikers.

London, Jan. 31.—There was still no prospect early today of any betterment in the labor situation in the United Kingdom. If anything, the situation, both at Glasgow and Belfast, has become more serious, particularly in the latter city. The strike movement is spreading to the industrial establishments and there are undoubted signs of coming disorders which may entail the proclamation of martial law.

The seriousness of the situation is not being ignored by the government. It was the subject for discussion at a special meeting of the cabinet held yesterday, while the board of trade also is active in an effort to bring about settlements.

The government feels that any governmental interference now would be unwise and perhaps dangerous. The strike movement is a local and against the advice of the respective trade unions. Moreover, there is infinite variety in the various demands advanced in the different localities, while many of the alleged grievances are of a trifling character, such as the question of a five-minute lunch, it appears to be generally believed that the absence of strike pay for the men will soon bring about the collapse of the movement.

The problem for the government ministers is how to re-establish the authority of the trade unions and assist in the expansion of machinery of conciliation so as to enable each trade to settle its own disputes. It is further considered that the strikes are largely promoted by a few agitators with political motives. Hence, the government is determined to limit its action to the prevention of intimidation and the maintenance of order.

Most of the employers assert that they will refuse to negotiate until the men resume work.

Thus far the railways have not been affected. The board of trade has decided to grant an eight-hour day to the railway men from February 1, but here again there is dissatisfaction among the railway employees concerning the question of meal money being included in the eight-hour period.

Furthermore, a meeting yesterday of representatives of 75,000 railway clerks and station masters, held in London, developed talk of a strike because the board of trade refused to recognize these men's union. They will hold another meeting Sunday to decide upon their course of action.

SENATE INQUIRY IN MICHIGAN

Washington, Jan. 31.—The Michigan election scandal, involving alleged extravagant expenditures by Henry Ford and C. Truman H. Newberry, doubtless will be fully investigated by the present Senate, which has brought accusations against the other and both will be heard.

The resolution authorizing the inquiry was considered favorably by the Contingent Expenses Committee. The vote 3 to 1. Senator Smoot opposed the investigation. There will be a lively debate when the Senate is asked to adopt the resolution as reported.

It will be a partisan affair, with the exception of one or two progressive Republicans who believe the Michigan scandal should be aired. The Democrats will adopt the resolution when discussion is concluded.

It is proposed to begin the inquiry at once. A program will be quickly arranged and the examination of witnesses taken up at an early date. It cannot be completed in time for action at this session of Congress.

Alfred Lucking as counsel for Mr. Ford filed with the Senate an answer to charges made by Mr. Newberry that the campaign outlay of Ford made his own resemble a mere pittance. Mr. Ford's statement was: "My attention has been called to a communication to your honorable body signed Truman H. Newberry, in which it is made charges of excessive and unlawful expenditures by or on behalf of Henry Ford in the late Michigan Senatorial election and of irregularities."

"I beg to say, in as emphatic language as parliamentary rule will permit, that these charges and insinuations are wholly false and they only furnish additional reasons why an immediate investigation should be ordered, which Mr. Ford has been asking for ever since the primary and which has been opposed by Mr. Newberry and his representatives from that time until this."

"No money or other thing of value was expended by Mr. Ford either in primary or election and no monies were expended in his behalf in the primary. The expenditures made in the election were made by the Non-Partisan-Ford-Senator Committee and by the Democratic State Central committee, both of which committees have reported in utmost detail under the oath of their respective treasurers their expenditures, which were all lawful disbursements."

Two fires in Halifax caused \$100,000 damage. The Waverly House and Rex buildings were badly damaged.

THREE MISSING 20 INJURED

Explosion Wrecks Aniline Products Corporation In Nyack.

Nyack, N. Y., Jan. 31.—Three persons were reported missing and 20 others had been removed to a hospital within a short time after explosions wrecked the plant of the Aniline Products Corporation today. The victims were all employed at the plant, which is owned by a corporation in New York city.

Several children in the Nyack High school, nearby, were injured by splintered window glass.

There were two explosions. The first was so heavy that many buildings in the neighborhood were shaken and damaged. In the Nyack Evening Journal office, across the street, the machinery was overturned by the concussion.

After the second and less severe explosion, flames spread to all parts of the corporation's building and firemen from other towns were summoned to avert the destruction of other structures.

The plant was doomed by fire, it became evident immediately after the explosions. It was estimated the loss would exceed \$100,000.

The first detonation was heard for miles around and broke windows throughout the town.

The fire, which started from an unknown cause, was fanned by a heavy wind, adding to the difficulties of the firemen and navy personnel who joined in fighting the blaze.

PVT. TETREAU SPENT MONTHS IN HUN PRISON

Received Horse Meat and Black Bread for Supper—Menu Never Varied.

NOT COMPELLED TO DO ANY WORK

Gives Story of His Experiences From Time He Went "Over Top" to Release.

"War is fun compared to being a prisoner in the hands of the Germans," was the manner in which Private Joseph Tetreau, Co. E, 166th Infantry, 27th Division, expressed himself today when he appeared in the common council chambers at city hall to enroll with the "Committee to Welcome Home Returning Soldiers."

Captured at Cambrai on September 27, after he and 11 companions had been cut off from their regiment by a break through the Hindenburg line, Private Tetreau spent two months in the Hun prison camp at Westofde, Germany.

Questioned about how the Germans treated him in camp the Bridgeport soldier said that he was not compelled to work but the food was bad.

A sample of the daily menu handed out to prisoners by the Germans was as follows:

Breakfast—Coffee, made out of hickory and acorns.

Lunch—A bowl of soup made from cabbage and turnips.

Supper—Horse meat and black bread.

According to the ex-prisoner the only variation of this was something worse. He said that the Germans took everything from prisoners but their money. This they were allowed to keep and could purchase food at a canteen maintained at the camp.

Tetreau said that the prisoners never knew exactly how much they paid for the articles they purchased at this camp. They just held out the money and a Hun took as much as he wanted.

Private Tetreau's own story of the incidents leading up to his being taken prisoner is as follows:

"On the morning of September 27, 1918, we went over the top. The time was 5:15 a. m. and we had just replaced the British troops about Cambrai. Our object was to smash through the Hindenburg line at this point and to hold our ground at all costs."

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"We reached our objectives in a grand rush after a three-hour barrage by our own troops. When we had gained what was said to be our objectives we were ordered to advance still further and occupy the German second line trenches. This we did, at a good cost to the Hun, but in so doing several units of Americans were trapped. It was here that we discovered the Germans had underground tunnels leading from their second and third line trenches and out to the listening post trench. It was after we had occupied the trenches we were surprised to hear firing from our rear, and turning, discovered that the enemy had made use of the underground passages. There was a grand scramble for safety and I landed in a shell hole with 11 others. The funny part of it was that none of us belonged to the same company. A dozen different units were represented in this one hole."

"After laying on our stomachs for five hours, during which time one of our number was killed when he stuck his head above the surface to see what was happening, we were discovered by a Hun aeroplane, who signalled to a German officer. He brought up men and captured us."

"We were released from prison on November 27 and taken to Holland. From there we went to England and were later shipped home. It was some experience."

Private Tetreau lives at 403 Bond street, this city, and his parents live in Worcester, Mass.

Paterson, N. J., Jan. 31.—Thirty thousand silk workers here will go on strike Monday if the manufacturers resist their employees' decision to enforce an eight-hour day. Louis Magner, local chairman of the United Textile Workers of America, declared today.

Urged Roads Returned To Private Operation Early As Practicable

Asserted That He Represented 30,000,000 Persons Owning Or Interested In Railroad Securities—Proposed Comprehensive Plan for Administration

Washington, Jan. 31.—S. Davies Warfield, president of the National Association of Owners of Railroad Securities, gave the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee today the security-holders view of the railroad problem. He urged that the roads be returned to private operation as early as practicable with legislation insuring a fixed return on property investments, saying "the results of Federal control and operation thus far obtained can not give comfort to advocates of government ownership."

Mr. Warfield, who said he represented thirty million persons owning or interested in railroad securities, proposed a comprehensive plan for administering railroads under government supervision, involving profit-sharing among employees; creation of a Federal corporation to assist in financing railroads and to supervise unification of facilities and re-routing of traffic; arbitration of labor disputes; control of future security issues by the Interstate Commerce Commission and retention of state commissions. He opposed the plan for creating a department of railroads with a cabinet officer at its head.

Principal features of Mr. Warfield's program follow:

"Guarantee by act of congress of a minimum rate of return on property investment, made effective through proper rates, 'in order that the securities of the railroads may be stabilized and their credit established on a basis necessary to secure the money to provide to the shippers and the traveling public adequate facilities and service.'"

Establishment of a fund, administered by the Interstate Commerce Commission, of excess earnings above the fixed rate of return, one-third of this to go to the railroad company, one-third to employees as profit-sharing, and one-third to a reserve account.

Creation of a Federal corporation, operating without profit to the railroads with the nine Interstate Commerce Commissioners and eight railroad men as trustees, to finance purchase of equipment from the railroad administration, to assist in financing the roads during the period of return to private operation and to continue as a permanent means for mobilizing and purchasing equipment to be leased to railroads, to put into effect joint use of terminals, unification of facilities, re-routing of freight by pooling or otherwise and to continue other reforms found advisable during government management.

Federal regulation of rates by the Interstate Commerce Commission as already established, co-ordinating with six regional commissions to be created, the Interstate Commerce Commission to be the final court of appeals on rate matters.

STATE AID TO CONN. COMPANY DENIES GIRLS ARE IN PERIL

To Amount of \$2,000,000—Cost of Investigating City \$3,000.

Hartford, Jan. 31.—State aid to the amount of \$2,000,000 to the Connecticut Co. was proposed in a bill offered "by request," and unopposed in the general appropriation body today. The public utilities commission would first give hearings to determine the need and to decide the payments of the sums as required.

The amendment to the Bridgeport Taxpayers' league bill for inquiry into affairs of that city, and offered in the Senate, would limit the expense of investigation of \$3,000 to be paid by the city. Senator Bartlett said that it was thought advisable to have a committee determine if such an inquiry was warranted, and upon his suggestion to raise a committee to make the inquiry, the amendment proposal went to the cities and boroughs committee for a report.

A Suffrage resolution by Senator Dillon would give women the statutory rights to vote for presidential and vice presidential electors in the State. Senator Henshaw proposed in a bill to have the state own and maintain an executive mansion, without cost and including servants for the governor's use. A committee on governor's house would be raised to report on a site and recommendation for a new residence at the next session. A tax bill would eliminate the four and one-half per cent tax on gross earnings of street railway companies and another would increase taxes on telephone companies.

The Shore Line Electric Railway Company petitioned for a charter amendment to permit it to lease or sell to the Eastern Connecticut Power Company its rights to make, sell and distribute electricity.

There were petitions to revise the laws of taxation of water, gas, electric and power companies. The New Britain Gas Light Company being one of the petitioners.

A resolution would have the state give formal expression of gratitude to its men who have served in the war. A state farm for dependent persons was proposed by Mr. Meech, of Middletown.

Mr. Fitzhenry of Waterbury, offered an excise bill fixing one and one-half per cent of alcohol in beverages as the definition of intoxicating and spirituous liquors, placing the burden of proof on the persons having such liquor on their person and giving the right of search of a person for liquor.

Mr. Sherwood, of Westport proposed to raise club licenses to \$750 each, with the regulations of a saloon to govern them.

Bradford asked the United States for 10 ships to bring 500,000 bushels of coffee from this country.

New York, Jan. 31.—The British transport Minnekahda arrived here today with 2,736 troops from France. A majority of these men are of the 82nd division, including Companies A, B, C, D, I, K, L and M, and the field and staff of the headquarters company of the 329th Infantry (Cavalry) Company No. 222, comprising two officers and 67 men was aboard.